

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 006146  
ORIGIN IO-14

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R 101959Z JAN 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ROME  
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 006146

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: FAO, OCON

SUBJECT: FAO PROGRAM AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

1. DECISION OF RECENT 19TH FAO CONFERENCE CHANGED REPRESENTATION ON ABOVE COMMITTEES FROM "PERSONAL CAPACITY" TO "GOVERNMENTAL." WE THEREFORE WILL NEED TO PREPARE OFFICIAL USG POSITIONS ON ISSUES BEFORE ELEVEN MEMBER PROGRAM COMMITTEE (TO WHICH MINISTER-COUNSELOR BAKER ELECTED) AND ARRANGE CONSULTATIONS WITH CANADA (DENNIS WARE) WHICH WILL HAVE SOLE REPRESENTATIVE FROM NORTH AMERICA ON NINE MEMBER FINANCE COMMITTEE. LATTER COMMITTEE CONVENES MAY 8-19, 1978. PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETS MAY 2-12, 1978.

2. TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, WE WILL WANT TO ACCOMMODATE CANADIAN VIEWS IN PROGRAM COMMITTEE AND RELY ON THEM TO DEFEND ISSUES OF INTEREST TO USE IN FINANCE COMMITTEE  
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SESSIONS. BOTH COMMITTEES NORMALLY MEET TWICE A YEAR.  
SECOND 1978 SESSIONS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 9-20.

3. CONFERENCE DECISION TO ALTER MAKE-UP OF COMMITTEES MAKES IT ESSENTIAL THAT FAO GIVE GREATER ATTENTION TO TIMELY PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF DOCUMENTATION.

COMMITTEES WILL BE UNABLE TO FUNCTION IF PAST PRACTICE OF DISTRIBUTING SOME DOCUMENTATION JUST PRIOR TO OR AT OPENING OF COMMITTEE SESSIONS IS CONTINUED.

4. EMPHASIZING CONCERN IN PARA 3, FODAG REQUESTED SPEAK WITH SECRETARIAT CONCERNING THE PROPOSED AGENDA FOR PROGRAM COMMITTEE AND THE PLANNED DATE FOR DISTRIBUTION OF DOCUMENTS. IN 19TH CONFERENCE U.S. RECOMMENDED THAT PROGRAM COMMITTEE AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME SHOULD EXAMINE FAO'S OVERALL ACTIVITIES IN INVESTMENT. THIS RECOMMENDATION WAS ADOPTED BY CONFERENCE. WE ARE ANXIOUS TO KNOW IF FAO IS PLANNING TO HAVE COMMITTEE CONDUCT THIS EXAMINATION AT MAY MEETING. ANY AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON PLANS BEING MADE FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE ALSO WOULD BE OF INTEREST.

5. FOR OTTAWA. MESSAGE IS FOR INFORMATION EMBASSY BUT DEPARTMENT HAS NO OBJECTION CONTENTS BEING MADE AVAILABLE DENNIS WARE OR FRANK SHEFRIN, CANADIAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, IF OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF. WE INTEND CONTACT THEM TO DISCUSS CONSULTATIONS AFTER HEARING FROM ROME. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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